

Message Text

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FOL LA PAZ 3080 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO DEA HQS WASHDC
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UNCLAS LA PAZ 3080

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT
UNDER SECTION 481 OF FAA (OCTOBER 1, 1977 - MARCH 31, 1978)

REF: (A) STATE 83179, (B) 77 LA PAZ 9131

1. CURRENTLY THERE IS NO FY 1978 NARCOTICS CONTROL APPROPRIATION
EXCEPT FOR PERSONNEL-RELATED COSTS AND AN ADDITIONAL 160 THOUSAND
DOLLARS TO COVER OPERATIONAL SUPPORT TO THE GOB NARCOTICS DIREC-
TORATE (DNSP). FY 1977 PROJECT AGREEMENT 70023 STILL HAS SOME UN-
EXPENDED FUNDS TO COVER MISCELLEANOUS LOCAL PURCHASES AND EXPENSES,
AIRPORT NARCOTICS CONTROL AND COCA PRODUCTION CONTROL EXPENSES.
FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO PARA 3 OF REFTTEL:

2. (A) BOLIVIAN PRODUCTION OF COCA LEAVES AND TO A LESSER EXTENT
OF COCAINE HCL CONTINUE TO PLACE BOLIVIA NEAR THE TOP AS A SUPPLIER.
THIS IN SPITE OF AN INCREASING ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITY, INCREASING
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SEIZURES OF COCAINE BASE AND HCL AND THE DESTRUCTION OF NUMEROUS
FACTORIES. THERE IS, IN FACT, EVIDENCE THAT SINCE THE REGISTRATION
OF COCA FARMERS AND COCA PRODUCTION WAS TERMINATED IN LATE
OCTOBER OF 1977, COCA PRODUCTION HAS INCREASED. THE CLEAR
BOLIVIAN PROHIBITION AGAINST NEW PLANTINGS AFTER NOVEMBER
30, 1977 HAS NOT BEEN EFFECTIVE OF ITSELF IN RESTRAINING
GROWERS. AN ADDITIONAL DECREE TO PUT TEETH IN THE EXIST-

ING LEGISLATION AGAINST NEW PLANTINGS IS NEEDED AND THIS IS RECOGNIZED BY GOB OFFICIALS. GIVEN THE POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF COCA, HOWEVER, THE GOB CANNOT REALISTICALLY BE EXPECTED TO MAKE A DECISIVE MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION UNTIL THE NEW GOVERNMENT TAKES OFFICE IN AUGUST.

3. STATISTICS FROM THE COCA REGISTRATION TO DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF YEARLY COCA PRODUCTION HAVE NOT YET BEEN TABULATED. ONCE THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE (BY END OF APRIL) AND ADJUSTED FOR THE PERCENTAGE OF UNREGISTERED FARMERS AND INCREASED PRODUCTION, A REASONABLE ESTIMATE OF THE AMOUNT OF COCA LEAF GOING INTO THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION OF COCAINE SULFATE AND COCAINE HYDROCHLORIDE MAY BE MADE. EMBASSY'S MOST RECENT ESTIMATE IS AN ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF 20,000 METRIC TONS OF COCA LEAVES, OF WHICH 75 PERCENT IS DIVERTED INTO THE ILLEGAL PRODUCTION OF COCAINE HCL. ASSUMING THAT 7.3 KILOS OF HCL ARE PRODUCED FROM ONE METRIC TON OF LEAVES (WHICH MAY BE HIGH) AND THAT 90 PERCENT OF THE HCL IS DESTINED FOR THE US, A POTENTIAL 98.5 METRIC TONS OF HCL MAY BE REACHING THE U.S. MARKET. THE NEED TO PUSH AHEAD WITH THE PROGRAM IS OBVIOUS.

4. INC PROGRAM STATUS.
THE DNSP HAS ALMOST COMPLETELY LIVED UP TO ITS IMPLEMENTATION COMMITMENTS UNDER PRO-AG 70023 (SEE REF B).
INVESTIGATIVE STRENGTH OF DNSP PERSONNEL IS NOW AT 125, NOT COUNTING 14 REGISTRATION AND CONTROL INSPECTION STAFF PLUS 25
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CHAUFFEUR-MECHANICIS MOST OF WHOM HAVE HAD NARCOTICS TRAINING AND GO ON OPERATIONS.
THE FOUR MAIN DNSP REGIONS OF LA PAZ, ORURO, COCHABAMBA, AND SANTA CRUZ ARE FULLY MANNED AND WELL EQUIPPED WITH VEHICLES AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES.
FOURTEEN OTHER REGIONS HAVE BEEN ACTIVATED BUT MOST LACK MANPOWER, OFFICE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT. DNSP CY 1978 BUDGET PROJECTIONS CALL FOR ASSIGNMENT OF FIVE INVESTIGATORS, EACH, TO THE KEY BORDER AREAS OF PUERTO SUAREZ, GUAYARAMERIN, TRINIDAD AND YACUIBA. OTHER AREAS HAVE ONE OR TWO MEN WITH SUPPORT FROM FRONTIER POLICE ELEMENTS AS NEEDED.
CONSTRUCTION OF THE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FACILITIES WAS REACTIVATED ON MARCH 1, WHEN NEW GOB FUNDING BECAME AVAILABLE. IT IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY MAY 15.
ALL OTHER IMPLEMENTATION COMMITMENTS ENUMERATED IN REF B HAVE BEEN FULFILLED.

5. COOPERATION FROM THE HOST GOVERNMENT CONTINUES AT A HIGH LEVEL IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL, ESPECIALLY FROM THE DNSP ITSELF.
THE GOB APPROVED A 59 MILLION PESOS (ALMOST 3 MILLION DOLLARS) BUDGET FOR THE DNSP FOR CY 1978 WHICH REPRESENTS A 65 PERCENT

INCREASE OVER 1977. THIS WILL PERMIT THE DNSP TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH ITS PROJECTIONS FOR EXPANSION TO PROVIDE NARCOTICS CONTROL CAPABILITY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WITH THE NECESSARY BACKSTOPPING FROM THE US.

DURING THE SIX MONTH REPORTING PERIOD, THE DNSP CONFISCATED 83.3 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE SULPHATE AND 42.3 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE HYDROCHLORIDE WHILE DISMANTLING 57 RUSTIC COCAINE FACTORIES AND ONE REFINING LABORATORY.

OF TOTAL PERSONS ARRESTED, 139 WERE REMANDED TO THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR FOR TRIAL, 140 RELEASED AFTER INVESTIGATION AND 15 FOREIGNERS WERE DEPARTED.

6. PROBLEMS.

AS WILL BE MORE THOROUGHLY REPORTED IN THE PENDING PROJECT EVALUATION, UNCLASSIFIED

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TION, THE DNSP IS STILL WEAK IN ITS INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION ANALYSIS CAPABILITY. OF THE MANY ARRESTED ONLY A FEW COULD BE SAID TO HAVE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING CONNECTIONS AND NO SOLID INFORMATION HAS YET BEEN OBTAINED ON SUSPECTED SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING ROUTES OUT OF BOLIVIA.

WITH TENSIONS AND UNCERTAINTIES OVER THE CHANGING POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY AND THE APPROACHING ELECTIONS, A TEMPORARY DIMINISHING OF GOB COMMITMENTS AGAINST ENFORCEMENT OF NARCOTICS AND COCA PRODUCTION CONTROLS MUST BE EXPECTED. IN PARTICULAR, THERE IS A HESITATION ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT TO PERMIT DNSP TO ENFORCE THE PROHIBITION AGAINST NEW COCA PLANTINGS. THE DNSP DIRECTOR IS AWARE OF THESE SHORTCOMINGS AND WILL SEEK A REASSERTION OF GOB COMMITMENT TOWARDS NARCOTICS CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT.

7. (B) INC ASSISTANCE.

COMMODITIES: AS THERE IS NO FY 1978 NARCOTICS CONTROL ALLOTMENT, ALL COMMODITIES FOR PROJECT WERE ORDERED FROM FY 77 FUNDS AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. THEY ARE ENUMERATED ON PAGES 4 AND 5 OF REF B. RELEASED TO DNSP SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD WERE THE FOLLOWING:

ONE FORD VAN (PIO/C 5-70026)

FIVE DODGE CREW CABS RECEIVED BY SURFACE (PIO/C 5-70024)

SOME MISCELLEANOUS EQUIPMENT UNDER PIO/C 5-70033; 33 MOSQUITO NETS, 4 PORTABLE TYPEWRITERS, 58 FLASH LIGHTS.

NUMEROUS COMPONENTS, TRANSISTORS AND SPARE PARTS REQUIRED TO SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT UNDER PIO/C 5-70031 WERE ORDERED AND RECEIVED AS AMENDMENTS TO PIO/C 5-70033. SOME SIMILAR ITEMS ARE IN THE PIPELINE.

TWO TV MONITORS FOR VTR SYSTEM (PIO/C 5-70032).

MISCELLEANOUS SUPPLIES TO SUPPORT A.B. DICK MIMOGRAPH MACHINE (PIO/C 5-70039).

RECENTLY ORDERED UNDER PIO/C 5-70109 WERE TWO POLAROID CAMERAS, UNCLASSIFIED

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FILM, CALCULATING AND TYPEWRITER MACHINES FOR USE BY THE REGISTRATION AND CONTROL DEPARTMENT OF DNSP. THE POLAROID FILM AND ONE MONROE CALCULATOR HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

KENNELS FOR DETECTOR DOGS ARE IN THE FINAL STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION. THIS IS A PRELIMINARY PHASE OF A GOB DETECTOR DOG PROGRAM AND INTEGRAL PART OF AIRPORT NARCOTICS SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL. LOCAL CONSTRUCTION OF RADIO ANTENNA TOWERS HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN SUPPORT OF EXISTING TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

INC FUNDED TRAINING

FOUR GOB CUSTOMS PERSONNEL ATTENDED U.S. CUSTOMS-NARCOTICS TRAINING IN WASHINGTON, DC OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 25, 1977.

FOUR DNSP SUPERVISORS ATTENDED ADVANCED DEA SCHOOL FROM OCTOBER 8 - NOVEMBER 9, 1977.

TWO DOCTORS FROM THE DNSP DRUG REHABILITATION TREATMENT CENTER ATTENDED A DRUG ABUSE CONFERENCE IN BUENOS AIRES, 10/17-24/77.

THE DNSP DIRECTOR WAS ON A DEA-INC EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE US AND MEXICO DURING MARCH 4-26, 1978.

SIXTY DNSP AND NATIONAL POLICE PERSONNEL WERE GIVEN A TWO-WEEK NARCOTICS TRAINING COURSE FROM NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 2, 1977.

COURSE IN TWO SESSIONS, WAS CONDUCTED BY A DEA MOBILE TRAINING TEAM. A SIMILAR COURSE WAS CONDUCTED FOR 25 DNSP AND FIVE CUSTOMS AGENTS FROM MARCH 13-24, 1978.

U.S. INC PERSONNEL.

ONE US ADVISOR DURING THE ENTIRE REPORTING PERIOD (ARROYO).
SECOND US ADVISOR ARRIVED FROM COLOMBIA ON JANUARY 8, 1978 (LOPEZ).

P.S.C. COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS ON ONE YEAR CONTRACT (VASILE)
TDY SPECIAL AGENT FROM DEA WHO CONDUCTED GOB CUSTOMS NARCOTICS EVALUATION DEPARTED THE POST ON OCTOBER 14, 1977 (PEREZ - 13 DAYS OF REPORTING PERIOD).

8. (C) FINANCIAL DATA

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	NET OBLIGATIONS	ACCRUED EXPENDITURES
1. U.S. PERSONNEL	31,891.04	51,853.87
2. TCN AND LOCAL PERSONNEL	0	0
3. COMMODITIES	2,423.16	78,214.28
4. PARTICIPANTS	0	0
5. OTHER COSTS	12,247.86	113,308.72

TOTAL \$46,562.06 243,376.87
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